

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/690,409

Examiner

Teresa M. Bonk

Applicant(s)

COBZARU ET AL.

Art Unit

3725

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

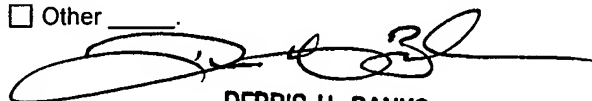
1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the application filed on 10/21/2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-23.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_



DERRIS H. BANKS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

## NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE

### Allowable Subject Matter

1. It is in the opinion of the examiner that the art of record neither anticipates nor renders obvious "a mandrel including a plurality of substantially planar engagement surfaces; a collet structured to be disposed on the actuator; the collet including a base and a plurality of segments, the segments being disposed on the base and being elastically deflectable with respect to the base... the mandrel being rotatably disposed on the support, whereby the engagement surfaces are self-alignable with the reaction surfaces" in combination with the rest of the claimed set forth in the independent claim.

2. Further searching by the examiner yielded additional prior art as follows:

Reid et al. (US Patent 5,103,548) discloses a method and apparatus for securing a tubular bushing in a circular opening having a mandrel 10 with a converging end portion 60 and the maximum and increasing diameter portions 58, 56, and a sleeve abutment 40 (collet) including a flange 44 (base) and a number of longitudinal segments 48; the mandrel is operated by a puller tool 14 having a nosepiece 16 into which the small diameter portion 54 of the mandrel is received and having a outer end surface 36 immediately surrounding the mandrel.

Easterbrook et al. (US Patent 5,433,100) discloses an apparatus to be used for prestressing holes having a mandrel 80 with a increasing diameter conical portion 90, terminating in a the maximum diameter cylindrical portion 92, then tapering outwardly is a decreasing diameter frusto-conical end portion 94 and a forward end portion 46 (collet) with

finger 58 (plurality of segments), a pull gun (Figure 7) is operated so that the end of the mandrel extends outwardly beyond the outer ends of the fingers.

3. However the above prior art fails to disclose a reasonable combination of “a mandrel including a plurality of substantially planar engagement surfaces; a collet structured to be disposed on the actuator; the collet including a base and a plurality of segments, the segments being disposed on the base and being elastically deflectable with respect to the base... the mandrel being rotatably disposed on the support, whereby the engagement surfaces are self-alignable with the reaction surfaces.” Therefore, it is concluded by the examiner that claims 1-23 of the present invention are allowable.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

### ***Conclusion***

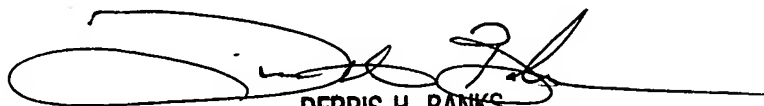
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Teresa M. Bonk whose telephone number is (571) 272-1901. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30AM - 5PM with alternating Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Derris Banks can be reached on (571) 272-4419. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3725

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Teresa M. Bonk  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3725



DERRIS H. BANKS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700